(b) whether Government have taken into consideration all safety and security issues involved in this move before granting permission;

(c) whether Government have identified the air spaces which are being opened up for civil use; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Discussion with Indian air Force has been made from time to time on flexible use of airspace including all safety and security issues involved in the matter.

(c) and (d) Areas for flexible use of airspace are yet to be identified.

Airports in Maharashtra

1400. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of airports in Maharashtra and the number of those which are functional;

(b) the number and names of airports being upgraded to the international standard;

(c) the names of airports which are being modernised and privatised; and

(d) whether Government have plans to introduce feeder air services connecting big cities of Maharashtra with air and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI): (a) Airports Authority of India (AAI) owns 7 airports and one Civil Enclave in the State of Maharashtra of which 5 are operational.

(b) and (c) The CSI Airport at Mumbai is already an International airport. Based on Cabinet decision Mumbai airport is being modernized

as world class airport through Joint Venture route. Nagpur airport has been upgraded to international standard and Aurangabad airport is being upgraded to international standard with the assistance of Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC). The Government of Maharashtra also has a plan to upgrade the Nagpur airport into an international passenger and Cargo hub.

(d) Airlines plan their operations for any sector on the basis of commercial and operational viability subject to route dispersal guidelines issued by the Government.

New Airport in Uttar Pradesh

†1401. DR. AKHTAR HASAN RIZVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to construct any new airport in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDI):(a) and (b) AAI has no proposal at present to construct new airport in Uttar Pradesh. However, Government of Uttar Pradesh have proposed for development of a new Taj International Airport and Aviation Hub near village Jewar in Bulandshahar District of Uttar Pradesh, for which Technical approval of the site has been granted.

(c) Does not arise.

Air Trafic at Bangalore Airport

1402. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of international flights which have been arriving Bangalore International Airport everyday;

(b) whether the State Government of Karnataka has requested the Central Government to arrange the arrival timings in such a way as to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.